



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA – Acting United States Attorney Laurie Magid today announced the filing of an indictment¹ charging Jose Manuel Soto, a/k/a “Zero,” with possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of cocaine base (“crack”); possession with intent to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin; and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

The indictment charges that, on or about December 11, 2008, Soto was caught in possession of approximately 57 grams of crack and approximately 360 grams of heroin, along with a 9mm Taurus semiautomatic handgun, loaded with 8 live rounds of ammunition.

Soto was arrested on December 11, 2008, and has been detained without bail pending trial. Soto is 45 years old, and resides in Philadelphia, PA.

If convicted on all counts, the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of lifetime imprisonment, a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years’ imprisonment, a \$4,000,000 fine, a mandatory minimum of 5 years’ supervised release up to a maximum of lifetime supervised release, and a \$600 special assessment.

This case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, a combined unit consisting of members of the Philadelphia Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Agency. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lauren M. Ouziel.

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¹ An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.